U.S. proposals at Rio Conference

1296. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. Delegation at the recent UNCED at Rio had mooted a 'Forestry Convention' to be signed by member countries; and

(b) if so, what were the details of the US proposal and what was the stand taken by India thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The move to have a Forestry Convention was made prior to the Rio Conference by ome developed countries including USA. This was opposed by several developing countries including India. Finally, at the Rio Conference in June, 1992 the consensus was for a "Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of all types of Forests."

Setting up of National Research Laboratories on Forests and Environment

1297. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI. Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to set up at east four National Research Laboratories on Forests and Environment one each at Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) Government have always accorded highest priority to research having a bearing on forest conservation and ecology. The Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education is the umbrella orpanisation for Foresury Research which is carried on through six umbrella organisation for Forestry research centres. Several other institutes like the G B Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development, Wildlife Institute of India and other Centres of Excellance like Salim Ali Centre for Orinthology and Natural History, Ecological Sciences Research & Training Centre. Centre for Mining Environment etc. are undertaking research directed towards sustaining ecological balance in our total environment. There is ,however, no proposal under consideration to set up laboratories on Forests and Environment at Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay and Madras.

वन संरक्षण और पर्यावरण के सुधार के लिए योजना

1298. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव :** क्या **पर्यावरण और वन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को वन संरक्षण और पर्यावरण में सुधार करने के लिए उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की कोई योजना प्राप्त हुई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और उस पर क्या कार्यवाही की गई है; और

(ग) उत्तर प्रदेश में चल रही परियोजनाओं का जिला-वार ब्यौरा क्या है?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ) : (क) से (ग) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन के पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

Earth summti at Rio

1299. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the number of groups or individuals who were sponsored by